Remarks

As the Examiner will note by reference to the claim amendments made above, all of the claims pending in this application have undergone minor amendment. This is to place the claims into alignment with the claims made to the corresponding European patent application, which now has granted as European Patent No. 1,118,925. These amendments address a number of minor objections raised by the European Examiner during the prosecution of that application. The European Examiner did not raise objections based upon the prior art, however.

In this application, the US Examiner rejected claims 1-2 and 6-9 under 35 U.S.C. 102 as allegedly being anticipated by an Intel CDSA specification. The Intel CDSA specification cited by the Examiner represents a prior art Common Data Security Architecture including "trust policy modules". This specification is discussed at pages 1-3 of the present application. Each trust policy module embodies the semantics of a trust model - see page 11 last sentence. It does not disclose a "generic trust policy library within the add-in security modules layer and supporting a set of standard trust policy Application Programming Interfaces (APIs)", as claimed by claim 1. Neither does it disclose a "trust policy description file containing a set of domain-specific trust policies written in a policy description language common to said architecture"; nor "a policy interpreter operable to interpret a set of policies contained in said policy description file" as specifically claimed by claim 1.

The section of the prior art document referred to by the Examiner on page 9 (section 1.7.3.2 of the Intel specification) says "Trust policy modules implement policies defined by authorities and institutions". In other words in the prior art the trust modules are not generic, but rather are specific to the authority or institution whose policies they implement. Moreover, where is there any disclosure or suggestion of a "policy interpreter" or a "policy description language", both of which are recited by claim 1, in this document?

The advantages that these features provide are clearly set out in the present application,

namely they provide a more flexible way of enabling a user to specify the trust policies. The problems associated with the Intel approach are clearly spelled out in the present application. See, for example, the second paragraph on page 3 and the first paragraph on page 4 of the present application.

In order for a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 to stand, the prior art document cited by the Examiner must teach each and every limitation of each rejected claim. Since the Examiner has not specified how each and every limitation of claim 1 is met by the cited Intel document, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 must fall. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 and to withdraw it.

Turning briefly to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103, the Examiner rejects claim 3 as being unpatentable over the Intel document in view of Sweitzer (US Patent No. 6,018,617). It is noted that Sweitzer is concerned with a method and system for generating and formatting information, specifically test questions, in an understandable and predetermined manner. In the specific paragraph cited by the Examiner, namely column 4, lines 15-17 of Sweitzer, there is a discussion of how a unique test can be generated for each student.

It is submitted that a person of ordinary skill in the art, upon viewing the Intel document, would note that it is the sort of specification that might be used as a teaching tool. Sweitzer could be used as a technique for generating test questions to see if students understood what they had been taught about the Intel document. That might be an obvious use of Sweitzer's disclosure in view of the Intel document. However, where is there any motivation or suggestion to modify the data security architecture taught by the Intel document based upon the disclosure of Sweitzer? It is submitted, with all due respect to the Examiner, that the Examiner is using claim 3 as a roadmap to the prior art as opposed to assessing what the prior art really teaches. Just what is the motivation for making the combination suggested by the Examiner in the official action? The suggestion must come from the prior art, and not from Applicant's claims.

With respect to claims 4 and 5, the Examiner rejected those claims based upon the Intel

document in view of US Patent No. 6, 314,415 to Mukherjee. It is noted that the cited patent does discuss the PROLOG language. Of course, Applicant's own specification indicates that the PROLOG language is a prior art language and sets forth why the PROLOG language can be advantageously used as set forth in claims 4 and 5. Please see, for example, page 12 of the application as filed. The cited patent discloses an automated forms publishing system and method using rule-based expert system to dynamically generate a graphical user interface. The reader is told that the rules for the rule-based expert system can be written in the PROLOG language and used in the inference engine to drive the graphical user interface. However, it is not understood why one of ordinary skill in the art would want to modify the Intel document based upon the teachings of Mukherjee. Just what rule-based expert system is to be modified?

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 08-2025. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, then the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136 (a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 08-2025.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Office with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents
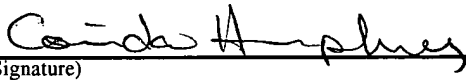
PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

December 8, 2004

_____
(Date of Deposit)

Corinda Humphrey

_____
(Name of Person Signing)

_____
(Signature)

December 8, 2004

_____
(Date)

Respectfully submitted,

_____
Richard P. Berg
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 28,145
LADAS & PARRY
5670 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 2100
Los Angeles, California 90036
(323) 934-2300